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LASHBACK

eserving the Past for the Future

Volume 49 **August 1999** **Number 3**

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Washington County Historical Society

118 East Dickson Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701

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Membership is invited of those interested in the preservation of Washington County's history. Dues are $15 annually. Donations, tax deductible according to current law, are gratefully received any time for special projects. Members are mailed *Flashback* every quarter. Past issues cost $5 each, current year's issues, $4 each.

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Cover photo: Fayetteville about 1874/75: front row, left to right - Olin Carson, Emma Bridgeford, Anna Putman, and Laura Botefuhr; back row - W. J. Waggener (in cadet uniform), Belle Gorton, Lizzie Davis, C. S. McKinney, and Eva McCart. Waggener and Gorton were in the first graduating class of the University in 1875. See May 1995 *Flashback* for more information about William J. Waggener. *Photograph from Washington County Historical Society photo files in Shiloh Museum of the Ozarks, Springdale.*

FLASHBACK

Preserving the Past for the Future

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FLASHBACK is published and mailed four times a year—the first week in February, May, August, and November. Articles for *Flashback* should be submitted 60 days before the publishing date of each issue. Acceptable articles will be published in the next available issue, provided there is space.

COPY to be printed in *Flashback* may be submitted in one of several ways: 1) furnished on computer disc, preferrably in WordPerfect or Microsoft Word for either Macintosh or a PC, 2) by e-mail to the editor at <dschaefe@comp.uark.edu> or, 3) cleanly typed copy that can be optically scanned. Text copy, photos, and artwork are all assembled on a computer. We welcome letters or e-mail messages that tell us of planned articles or inquire about Society activities.

The Development of the Council on Aging, Inc.

by C. J. Brown

Concern for the Elderly

The needs of the elderly have been a continuing concern of planners and policy makers in our area for many years. Issues dealing with how to provide for these needs in view of the exploding elderly population is being given local, state, and national priority. It is estimated that nationally, one in eight of us are 65 years of age or older. Furthermore, here in Arkansas, it is projected that by the year 2020 (less than 25 years or approximately one generation) that ratio will be one in five. This unprecedented growth in the elderly population can be related to improvements in health care, to the graying of the baby boomer generation and to the effectiveness of social service programs such as those provided by the Washington County Council on Aging, Incorporated (COA). This private, not for profit organization sponsors and coordinates the activities of the Community Adult Center, the Elderly Services and Nutrition Program, and the Adult Day Service Program.

Origin of the Council on Aging

The Council on Aging in Fayetteville got its start out of actions taken to a letter sent from the state office of the Employment Security Division (ESD) on October 1, 1959 to Mr. Dick Gilbreath, then manager of the local ESD office. The letter asked that Mr. Gilbreath arrange a meeting of interested citizens and representatives of local agencies and organizations, business and professional leaders, newspaper and radio station representatives, school officials, librarians, and others who were concerned with the problems faced by older citizens.

The focus of this meeting would be on finding jobs, or something, for older persons to do.

The meeting was held on the afternoon of November 4, 1959 in the dining room of the old Mountain Inn Hotel. Mrs. Fannie Beard, older worker specialist with the Employment Security Division, and Mrs. Mary McCammon, executive secretary of the Governors Commission on Aging, both from Little Rock, attended. Mr. Sam Matthews, manager of the local Social Security Office, served as the temporary chairman. Two committees were appointed—a steering committee composed of Mrs. Alberta Hanna of the County Welfare Office, chairwoman; Mrs. Rosebud Savage from the Veteran's Hospital; Rex Wood with the Employment Office; and Lionel Skaggs from the University of Arkansas Personnel Department. Also established was a meeting arrangements committee composed of Earl Hammons, Washington County Hospital, chairman; Mrs. Ann Cralley of the County Welfare Department, Dr. Wilma Sacks, county medical officer; Dr. Phillip Himmelstein of the University faculty; and Ted R. Wylie, from the *Northwest Arkansas Times.* On November 5, the *Northwest Arkansas Times* reported: "a Committee on the Aging of Fayetteville was formed, which will serve with the Governor's Commission on Aging in the State of Arkansas."

During 1960 the group was active with meetings and initiatives. In a February meeting Ted Wylie was named chairman, Sam Matthews, vice chairman and Mrs. Wilma Cooper, administrator for the City Hospital, secretary. A committee chaired by Mrs. Rosebud Savage, with members Mrs. Hanna, Mrs. Cralley, and Mrs. John Bowers considered the possibility of using volunteers to provide the ill and shut-ins with visitations, letter writing, and to provide car pools for riding or similar undertakings. The Rev. Charles Andrus and Norman McDonald were co-chairmen of a committee to explore the feasibility of

recreational, educational, and socialization programs. These considerations concluded that any program attempted would have to be on a small scale and with volunteer help. Projects could only be carried out through community cooperation.

Surveys were organized to verify the need for service and to cooperate with the Arkansas Commission on Aging in Little Rock. In 1961 it was decided that incorporation of the Council as a private, nonprofit, charitable organization would be advantageous, and this was done. These actions were under the leadership of Mrs. Virginia McPherson, chair, Mr. Lionel Skaggs, vice chair, and Mrs. Elmer Hook, secretary. One of the accomplishments during these formative stages was sponsorship of a district meeting at the Mountain Inn Hotel where several counties were represented. Also several local members attended a state meeting and the Rev. Earl Hughes, pastor of Wiggins Methodist Church, was named by Governor Faubus to represent Arkansas at a White House Conference on Aging.

Results of the above surveys produced the numbers of older persons who needed help as well as an inventory of available facilities and resources. Also revealed was that the arm of the Council directed toward helping the ill and infirm was much more active than the arm which provided recreational and social activities. The need to reenergize the recreational and social side caused certain members to redirect their efforts. Out of this redirection came the interest for developing of an Adult Center. Soon these efforts led to the reality of such an Adult Center being established in a building owned by the Fayetteville School System. The Adult Center opened on West Street on July 30, 1961. The motto chosen was, "Only by harmony and union of many can any great good come unto generations of men." The password chosen was "Kindness."

As activities at the Adult Center grew, employment of a director became necessary. During the 1960s, William Brown, then Lemuel King and later Jane Hodges served as directors of the Adult Center. Attendance grew to between 50 and 75. A newsletter providing a calendar of events and commentary on activities was initiated. It was titled Fayetteville Adult Center Events or "FACE." (Currently *FACE* is a six- to eight-page newsletter published monthly, bringing unity to the programs and informing the public about services and activities). A review of old *FACE* calendars show there were more than thirty different kinds of events that seniors could participate in during a year.

In the spring of 1969 Jane Hodges informed the board she would graduate from the University in June, be married and leave Fayetteville. As a result of her resignation Walter Reif was hired in April as the new director of the Center. He served until July 1, 1970 at which time Ms. Anita Whillock assumed those responsibilities.

Officers for the Council on Aging in 1970 were: president, Carl Swanson: 1st vice president, Margaret Wooten; 2nd vice president, Ruth Shaw; secretary, Edna Henbest; treasurer, Claude Bowman; trustees—Jerry Marshal and Fred Jepson; consultants—Tom Bell, Leon Innskeep, and E.A. Cowan. It was during the tenure of this leadership that on May 11, 1970, ground was broken for the construction of the Hillcrest Towers. Hillcrest Towers was financed with a Department of Housing and Urban Development loan of three million dollars. It was designed by architect Warren Seagraves to provide decent safe, sanitary, low rent housing to families of low income. It is twelve stories high, has one-hundred and twenty apartments plus space for recreation, other services and management offices. It is administered by a board of commissioners appointed by the city government. The Adult Center moved into Hillcrest Towers in May of 1972.

The COA president, in remarks at one of the monthly meetings, stated that, "thanks to the United Fund, state, county and city governments, we have an active Adult Center in Fayetteville." Also mentioned were the adult centers in Springdale, Lincoln, Prairie Grove, West Fork, and Elkins. He further spoke of the hope for a nutrition program for the elderly by the end of the year. In fact, the Elderly Services and Nutrition Program was started on March 27, 1973 under the management of the Washington County EOA. Initially, there were seventy seniors registered in the program. The Community Adult Center served as the Fayetteville meal site for persons over sixty years old.

In August of 1973 Boy Scout Troop 190 held a flag raising at Hillcrest Towers. The flags were presented by Mrs. Edna Henbest and accepted by Mr. Robert Dugan, director of Fayetteville City Housing on behalf of Hillcrest Towers. The national flag was given by Senator Fulbright and the state flag was given by Governor Bumpers. Both flags had flown over their respective capitols.

During May of 1974, an exhibition of senior citizen talents was held at the Northwest Arkansas Mall. In the same month, Fayetteville senior citizen square dancers participated in a "Celebration for Seniors" at the University Mall in Little Rock.

The years that followed were filled with growth and the development of stimulating programs. One example of this was the Great Decisions Discussion Group. It met weekly at Hillcrest Towers during 1980 to explore topics on the Middle East, the United Nations, Eastern Europe, Humanity on the Move, Brazil's Rising Power, Vietnam and its Neighbors, and the World Energy Crunch. The intellectual discussions were a great joy to those who attended the meetings.

Paid memberships in 1981 totaled 377 persons. The

budget for that same year totaled $35,148 reflecting the support of the United Fund, $7,500; federal funds $7,920; Washington County $4,224; City of Fayetteville $12,745; and $2,750 as self-generated project income. Space in Hillcrest Towers for the Council on Aging Community Adult Center is provided free by the Fayetteville Housing Authority and staff salaries for operating the Community Adult Center are paid out of the Fayetteville Parks and Recreation budget.

In May of 1984 several categories of membership in the Council on Aging were established. They were; Regular $3.00, Sustaining $10.00, Friend $25.00, Patron $50.00, and Life $100.00.

By April of 1985 there were 88 different activities being offered for the enjoyment of those wishing to participate. A total of 411 different persons accessed the program (unduplicated participation) and the total participation was 1700 (duplicated participation).

Several members went to Harrison in November of 1986 to participate in the Northwest Arkansas Senior Olympics. The event is sponsored annually by the NW Arkansas Area Agency on Aging. Medal winners were Homer Hurd, Marge Hurd, James Dotson, Ethel Evans, Darlene Jackson, Bessie Easter, Ann Keim, Pete Young, Lake Ryan, Lester Hasburger, Oretha Hasburger, Mae Elkins, and Dave Byrd.

In April of 1987 Betty Lighton was honored for her volunteer work. The Council on Aging was one of the many agencies she supported with her time and her money. She was designated Volunteer of the Year in Arkansas and received the Alexis De Tocqueville Award in Washington, D.C. She continues to be an honorary member of the board of directors of the Washington County Council on Aging.

Later in 1987, Anita Whillock resigned, after seventeen years of service as the Council on Aging director.

The search for a replacement led to the hiring of Betty Turner who had been asked to be a member of the search team. With the expansion of Council on Aging programs into other areas of Washington County the Board renamed the top to Executive Director.

Acquiring the "Elderly Services & Nutrition Program"

In July of 1990 Betty Turner solicited the services of Norman Koehring to help write a proposal that would prove that the Council on Aging, Inc. would be better qualified to manage Washington County's senior citizen programs than any other respondents to the Request for Proposal (RFP) published in area newspapers by the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Arkansas (AAA). After considerable research and a feverish effort the proposal was submitted to the AAA in October. By mid November the AAA announced that the COA would be their new provider of senior services in Washington County effective January 1, 1991 and a contract between the two parties was signed later in the month.

On January 1, 1991 COA took over management of the Elderly Services and Nutrition Program (ESNP) from the Economic Opportunity Agency (EOA) of Washington County. COA would manage senior centers in Fayetteville, Lincoln, Prairie Grove, and Springdale. Norman Koehring was the new director and gone were his days of semi-retirement and leisure.

Fortunately, most of the old EOA staff elected to continue working in the program under COA management. However, some adjustments in personnel did become necessary. EOA was very helpful in making the transition from their management of the ESNP program to COA a smooth one.

Title III funding was $153,910.00 for the year—SSBG funding amounted to $73,362.00 and the Quorum Court came through with $10,000.00. During the first three

months of 1991 the nutrition program provided noontime meals to an average of 345 clients per day. Contrast that with the daily average of 425 meals served just one year later. Abolishing the old policy of not serving those outside the city limits opened up many new opportunities for expansion. It seemed only logical and fair that rural areas should have access to ESNP services since their taxes were also part of our government funding support. Although this was an expensive decision, it made COA a much better service provider than it would have otherwise become.

The Programs Grow

Elm Springs: Initial interest for taking services to Elm Springs occurred in August of 1991. On March 11, 1992, Elm Springs senior citizens met with Betty and Norman at a building they proposed using for a senior center. They were ready to start. With some anxiety about starting a program of expansion, meals were delivered to the site on March 19. Space was provided in the old school house/community building by the city council. There were no rent or utility charges. Over the next two years this old schoolhouse underwent extensive remodeling included the addition of a new heating and air conditioning system.

Under the direction of volunteer manager Barbara Dillard, average attendance the first three months was twenty-five per meeting day. Participants met Tuesdays and Thursdays as there was little interest in meeting more frequently. There was no interest in starting a Home Delivered Meal (HDM) program at that time. Through the years the food van drivers have been delivering meals to a few homebound clients after making their stop at the senior center.

New Lincoln Senior Center Building: The old Lincoln senior center building was too small, old, and in a sad

state of repair when COA assumed operations. This prompted COA to ask the AAA for guidance in seeking financial help. With support from State Representative Jerry Hunton and Lincoln Mayor Ruth Parker, a $43,000 grant was obtained from the AAA. That was just enough for a steel shell building on a concrete pad—a suitable plot of ground was still needed. On April 3, 1992, COA and AAA managers met with Lincoln community leaders to explain the project and its needs. The Lincoln American Legion Post donated the land and many others from the community said they would help. Money was raised to purchase materials and volunteers provided the necessary skilled labor. On March 22, 1993, seniors in Lincoln moved into their new facility which has a value of around $110,000.

West Fork: Soon after the Elm Springs opening West Fork asked to join with the program. The first meeting on July 23, 1992, was with West Fork church representatives. ESNP services to that community started September 1, 1992. Easter Kichline, a COA employee in the kitchen and a resident in the West Fork community, was transferred to the new site as its manager. The home for the program was the Wensell Community Building, a city owned facility in a small park area. It was provided at no charge to COA. In the first three months, about twenty-three seniors met daily for two and a half hours of socialization and lunch. The Home Delivered Meal (HDM) program served nineteen persons along a route that extended from the city to within two miles of Devil's Den State Park.

Greenland: Greenland joined the program in January 1993. During the first year, participants met in three different churches while the city of Greenland was constructing its new community building. Volunteer managers Lorine Bachman and Mary Harris shared management responsibilities. Attendance the first several

months averaged around seventeen but there was no interest in an HDM program. The new 5000-sq.ft. community building was finished in February 1994. No charges were assessed for use of the building except COA provides the telephone.

Springdale #2: In May of 1993 COA began supplying ESNP services to a group of Springdale seniors meeting every Friday at the First Methodist Church. Attendance the first three months averaged thirty-three per meeting day. In June 1996, the two Springdale sites merged and moved into the Generations area at the Jones Center for Families and Friends. More on this later.

Adult Day Services: In the spring of 1993, the Northwest Arkansas Adult Day Care (NWAADC) board of directors appealed to the COA board of directors about a possible merger. This small, stand alone, program had two facilities (South Springdale and South Fayetteville) to which ESNP was already delivering meals for the daycare clients. A major problem for NWAADC was their lack of transportation. This limited their client base to only those persons whose families would provide the transportation to and from the centers. As a result, participation had declined to the point where the daycare program was losing money. It was either close or merge.

COA management felt that the daycare program could be salvaged through access to ESNP transportation and improved efficiencies of management. On July 1, 1993, the merger was accomplished and COA was in the Day Care business. Betty and Norman signed a note in the name of the Council on Aging for the debt of $16,414 that existed on the almost new Springdale facility. It had been mortgaged by the prior organization to pay bills and make payroll. Average client participation the first month was only 77.2 hours per day for both centers.

Prairie Grove: Prairie Grove Mayor Eileen Manning, State Representative Jerry Hunton, and other interested

citizens petitioned COA for a new senior center for their community. For many years the ESNP had been using shared facilities in the First Presbyterian Church. This greatly limited the activities usually available in stand alone senior centers. On February 14, 1994, AAA Executive Director Phil Peters announced $40,000 was being made pledged for a structure similar to the one built in Lincoln. The next priority was to locate a suitable piece of land that would be donated.

Several weeks later the Prairie Grove School Board approved a lease/donation of approximately an acre of land on an unused corner of school property. By early June the project was under way. Volunteers provided a lot of the labor. Much of the money raised for purchase of materials and to hire skilled labor came from a unique arrangement between the local Dillon Food Store and COA. Volunteers in Prairie Grove were allowed to place manufacturers' coupons on unsold products in the store. When the products were sold the attached coupons were collected and redeemed with the money going to fund the building effort. Over $1000 per month was raised in this program.

On November 11, 1995, Prairie Grove seniors officially occupied their new $110,000 center. A paved parking lot was added a year later and after that a wood deck was constructed at the back of the building. A Boy Scout Troop even made a graveled walking trail in the wooded area that joined the property.

Farmington: A one-day-a-week nutrition project was started in a room at the city hall in Farmington in January 1995. Under the direction of volunteer manager Marg Moon, the attendance averaged twenty-four per meeting day. A volunteer HDM program had been in place in Farmington for many years and it continued to be supplied from the Fayetteville Sang Avenue facility.

On March 28, 1995 a group of seniors and several city

officials met with COA to discuss the possibility of new center funding. This ultimately led to a meeting on April 23, 1995, between Farmington's Mayor Drake, community leaders, State Representative Jerry Hunton, and AAA's Executive Director Phil Peters. Once again, the AAA pledged $40,000 toward construction of a new senior center. While negotiating with the Farmington School Board for a small piece of school property for the building site, the Farmington City Council intervened with a proposal the senior center steering committee couldn't turn down. Due to a sizable bequest the City would pledge $100,000 more to the project and build a senior/community center on city-owned property at the edge of town. The 3600-sq. ft. building with paved parking was completed in February 1999.

Springdale Jones Center: In the fall of 1993, COA applied for possible inclusion in the planning process of the proposed new "Jones Center for Families and Friends." It was recognized that further growth at #5 Applegate Drive in Springdale was out of the question. The Jones Center appeared the best opportunity for a new senior center facility with a better future for senior citizens in Springdale.

Several meetings in early 1994 with Jones Center representatives were devoted to laying out part of the building to be the senior center. Then all contact ceased when a new person was placed in charge of the project. Subsequently in 1995 it was discovered that the Jones Center Management was unaware of the earlier work and the previous plans could not be found. The new policy was that no space would be dedicated for day-use by a particular organization. Rooms and facilities would be scheduled so that the greatest number of people would have a chance to enjoy areas available.

On September 8, 1995, COA filed a new application

requesting daily use of the Generations Area on the south end of the building. This seemed to be the most appropriate area for the COA program although less than the original plans. It was pointed out to the Jones Center management team that COA use of their facility mutually advantageous. COA could guarantee immediate senior participation something that the Jones Center management would have to cultivate. COA has a long time commitment to the program and an experienced staff to make it work.

A few months later, success was finally ours and theirs. After eliminating hurdles typical of new opportunities and undertakings the new Senior Center in the Jones Center was opened for business on July 1, 1996. Participants were saddened on leaving their old premises but quickly adapted to the new and luxurious surroundings. Participation in the COA program continues to increase. New and interesting opportunities for pleasure and socialization continue to evolve at this location.

The Walker Park Project and Waxhaws

Walker Park Project: On 17 November 1996 ground was broken for the Walker Park Senior Center on a six-and-a-half acre site at the location of the historical home of Archibald Yell known as "Waxhaws." About one hundred interested persons were in attendance on the bright sunny morning that set a positive atmosphere for this event. This project, costing approximately two million dollars, has not yet begun. Private funds are being sought to ensure that the total amount is on hand before construction starts, and it is hoped that will be soon.

Archibald Yell and Waxhaws

During the thirteen years that Waxhaws was his home, Archibald Yell blazed a trail of service through Arkansas that has been unequaled to this day. During this period

he served as Federal District Judge, Congressman, and Governor before dying a hero in the Mexican War.

Archibald Yell came to Fayetteville in the fall of 1834 which was approximately two years before Arkansas became a state. His family did not accompany him. He was appointed by President Andrew Jackson to a term as Federal District Judge in the Territorial Supreme Court. His was the Third Circuit, which included Washington, Carroll, Izard, Independence, Lawrence, Greene, Randolph, and St. Francis counties. At that time Fayetteville was an unincorporated newly established county seat and a developing trade center.

During his initial trip to Fayetteville, Yell bought eighty acres of land. This is the land on which he subsequently built his home known as Waxhaws. It was purchased from James Weems on November 28, 1834. It is now part of Fayetteville's Walker Park. By the mid 1840s, Yell owned approximately one-hundred-eighty acres in the Waxhaws area. The boundaries of this land were on the west, just east of Razorback Road near Paris Street; on the north, near Seventh Street, on the east, to South College, and on the south, to near Cato Springs Road on South Highway 71. Sometime in 1835, Yell returned to Tennessee to move his family to Fayetteville. They made the trip by boat, traveling from Pine Bluff up the Arkansas River to Van Buren on the shallow draft steamboat Neosho.

The Yell family consisted of Archibald, his wife Nancy, and four children. The children were Jane Rochester, nine years; Dewitt Clinton, three years; Elizabeth Rochester, two years; and Artemesia, one year. They first lived in a log house on Rock Street while Waxhaws was being constructed. On October 7, 1835, Nancy died and was buried on Waxhaws property. It was probably 1836 before the family was able to move into Waxhaws, their new home. Yell's brother and sister-in-law, Alexander

The Archiball Yell house at Waxhaws before it was torn down. *Photograph from Washington County Historical Society photo files in Shiloh Museum of the Ozarks, Springdale.*

and Martha moved in to care for his farms and the children. Tax records of 1836 indicate Yell owned two slaves. Because of the considerable size of his judicial circuit Yell spent much of his time away from Fayetteville.

The house at Waxhaws was probably finished in 1836. It originally had four rooms; a living room, two bed rooms and a kitchen separated from the other rooms by a breezeway. Three fireplaces were used for heating. The house was demolished by Brian Walker, owner, about 1970 and replaced with a modern brick ranch style house. It now serves as offices for the Council on Aging.

On July 7, 1836, nine months after Nancy's death, Archibald married Maria Ficklin in Pocahontas. She was the widow of Judge T. Ficklin. In August 1836 Maria Ficklin purchased eighty acres of land adjoining immediately west of the Waxhaws property. On December 12, 1836 Archibald Yell took his seat as first congressman from Arkansas. Evidence suggests that he and Maria did not return to Fayetteville very often if at all. The children remained at Waxhaws and were cared for by

Martha while Alexander managed the farms. It wasn't until July 1838 that Archibald and Maria returned to Fayetteville for a visit. While there Maria died on September 25, 1838, at thirty-six years of age. She was buried at Waxhaws. Archibald never remarried. He did not plan to run for reelection to congress but he did not remain out of politics for long.

In 1840 he was elected governor of Arkansas. He served in that office until he resigned in 1844 to run for congress against David Walker, a Fayetteville lawyer. He won the election and returned to Washington. There he remained until he left his seat without resigning to participate in the Mexican War. He was killed in the Battle of Buena Vista on February 23, 1847. He was first buried at Satillo in a tin coffin. In July of that year his body was brought to Little Rock for ceremonies at the state house before being brought to Fayetteville for burial at Waxhaws. On November 2, 1872 all the family burials at Waxhaws were moved to Evergreen Cemetery in Fayetteville. The romantic legacy of Archibald Yell continues to live at Waxhaws.

At his death Archibald Yell had accumulated considerable wealth. In Washington County, in addition to the Waxhaws property, he owned about 400 acres in a farm west of Fayetteville known as the "Eutaw Farm" and another place known as the "Mill Farm." He had town lots in Fayetteville, Ozark, Fort Smith, and a house and lot in Little Rock. He also owned eleven slaves and properties in Desha and Jefferson Counties.

This material was prepared with the assistance of Betty Turner, executive director of the Council on Aging (COA); Norman Koehring, director of the Nutrition Program, the 1997 officers of COA who are Martha Albright, president; Wilson Kimbrough, 1st vice president; Ruth Parker, 2nd vice president; Geneva Land, sec-

retary; and Nancy Guisinger, treasurer; and the Board of Directors of COA who are Barbara King, Millie Nelms, Rodney Ryan, Bill Collins, Eileen Manning, Andy Lucas, Juanita Stanley, Helen Andrew, William E. Carter, Ann Beyenka Bubes, Bill Ackerman, Joe Slaven, and Connell Brown. Betty Lighton and Jack Tuck are honorary members of the board. ❖

QUERY— *Rick Grover, 1915 Rosewood St., La Verne, CA 91750, e-mail- <grover1@primenet.com>* is looking for information on these families. SUSAN CRUMLEY, born about 1820 in Tenn., married JAMES HAGOOD. In 1850, in addition to their family, they had a DODSON CRUMLEY, b. abt 1834 in Ark., living with them. ELIZA CRUMLEY, born about 1823 in Tenn., married C. JACKSON INKS, born about 1822 in Tenn.

ELIZA CRUMLEY and C. JACKSON INKS, children:

SAMUEL PATTON, born abt 1838 in Ark., died during Civil War; ROBERT, born abt 1842 in Ark., died during Civil War; SUSAN, born abt 1848 in Ark.; SARAH, born abt 1849 in Ark.; ELIZA, born 1852 in Calif.; TOM, born after 1852 in Calif.; JAMES, born after 1852 in Calif.

Eliza Crumley and C. Jackson Inks went from Washington Co., Ark., to Tehama Co., Calif., in about 1852. They were killed in Tehama Co., Calif., by Indians in about 1859. SAMUEL PATTON INKS and ROBERT INKS were probably in the 16th Arkansas Infantry, Co. G, CSA when they were killed during the Civil War. The other children returned to Washington County where in 1866 SARAH married JOHN G. WEST, and JAMES T. CARTER was appointed guardian of the other children. SUSAN later married SWOPE and at one time she was a photographer in Cane Hill, Washington Co., Ark. ELIZA later married HENRY CLAY PYEATT, son of JOHN RANKIN PYEATT, and they lived out their days in Cane Hill. ❖

A Scientific Report on the Age of the Archiball Yell Law Office

From WCHS files: In a letter dated September 17, 1992, University of Arkansas dendrochronology (tree-ring dating) specialists Glenda Cade and David Stahle wrote the following report to the Washington County Historical Society:

We have completed the analysis of the wood specimens taken from the Archibald Yell law office on March 24, 1992. All eleven pieces of wood sampled are either post oak (*Quercus stellata*) or white oak (*Quercus alba*) based upon the wood anatomy and distribution of the species in Northwest Arkansas. Our dating results are summarized in Table 1.

The first five pieces of wood sampled are from sawn ceiling joists which are integral to the building itself. Three of these joists yielded cutting dates in the year

This is the Yell Law Office as it looked at Waxhaws before it was moved to 118 Dickson St. in Fayetteville. ***Brian Walker photo used in*** **Archiball Yell** ***by William H. Hughes, University of Arkansas Press, 1988.***

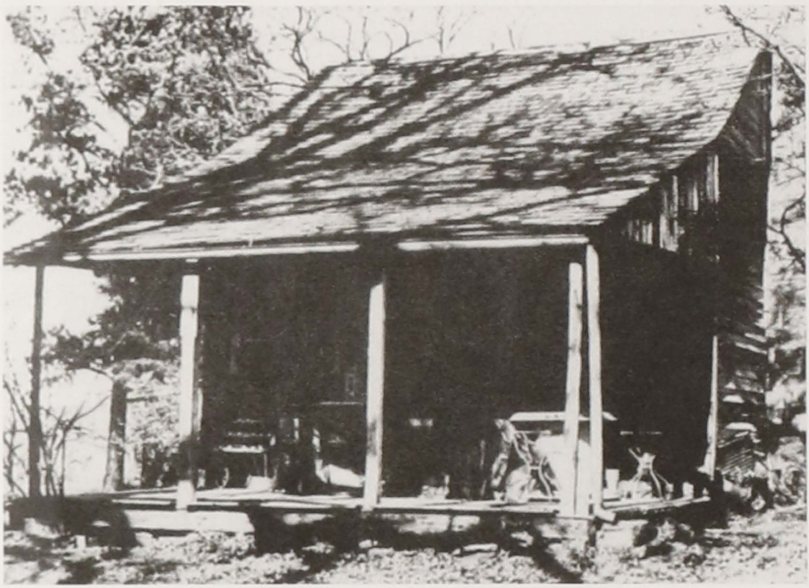


Table 1. Dated tree-ring specimens from the Archibald Yell law office, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Specimen ID	Species	Dating inner	Dating outer	Cutting Date
YEL02A	*Quercus sp.*	1674	1732 vv	
YEL03A	*Quercus sp.*	1729	1834 os	x
YEL04A	*Quercus sp.*	1723	1834 B	x
YEL05A	*Quercus sp.*	1779	1834 B	x
YEL06A	*Quercus sp.*	1750p	1866 os	x
YEL09A	*Quercus sp.*	1750	1859 vv	
YEL08A	*Quercus sp.*	1745	1872 os	x
YEL11A	*Quercus sp.*	1752p	1872 os	x
YEL10A	*Quercus sp.*	1759p	1872 os	x
YEL07A	*Quercus sp.*	1801	1872 os	x

1834. Because growth for the year 1834 was completed for these timbers, the tree-ring analysis indicates that they were felled sometime after mid-summer of 1834 and before mid-March of 1835. Two of these joists still held portions of bark.

Two specimens from the only remaining hand-hewn sill log attached to the building, located on what is now the south side of the structure, yielded a cutting date of 1866. The remaining specimens were taken from five loose timbers stacked within the building. Specimen YEL07A was also a hand-hewn sill log which appeared to have been the sill from the west wall, and it yielded a cutting date of 1872. The last four loose timbers were round logs with notched ends which, along with their length, indicated their use as porch floor joists. Three of these yielded cutting dates in the year 1872. The fourth porch floor joist was dated, but the outer edge was too badly eroded to yield a cutting date (YEL09A).

The tree-ring dates indicate two or three separate episodes of construction or repair on the Yell Law Office (Table 1). The three cutting dates in 1834 indicate that

construction of the Law Office began with the felling of timbers in late 1834 or early 1835. The structure might have been erected immediately in 1834, or the timbers might have been stockpiled for construction some years later. However, W. H. Hughes reports that Yell received his appointment as federal district judge of the Territorial Superior court in August, 1834, and began the construction of his home and office in Fayetteville in the spring of 1835 (W. H. Hughes, 1988, *Archibald Yell*, University of Arkansas Press). The tree-ring dates strongly confirm Hughes' historical research and indicate that the Yell Law Office is one of the oldest existing structures in Arkansas.

Explanation of Table

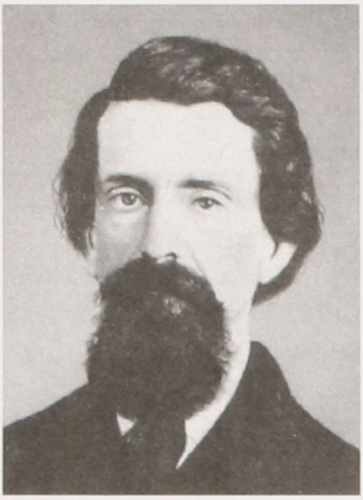
Dating: The inner and outermost dated rings of each specimen are listed in order by the earliest outer date. The "p" with an inner date indicates the presence of pith on the inner ring. The "vv" listed with an outer date means that the outer surface of the log was eroded, and the date is not a cutting date. The "os" listed with outer dates means that the outer surface of the log was present, and the date is a probable cutting date. A "B" listed with outer dates indicated that bark was present on the specimen, and the outer date is a true cutting date. Careful interpretation of the final ring indicates that all trees with cutting dates were felled after the growing season ended (i.e., after mid-summer, but before early spring of the following year). These tree-ring dates were determined by Glenda Cade and confirmed by David Stahle.

(In 1992 the Archiball Yell Law Office was moved from its original location at Waxhaws to the Washington County Historical Society property at 118 East Dickson Street in Fayetteville. It is now located on the northwest corner of that property, behind Headquarters House.) ❖

James Madison Phillips
First Mayor of West Fork

by Paula G. Vierra

My great-grandfather, James Madison Phillips, was the first elected mayor of West Fork, Arkansas. The rapid growth of the community after the construction of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway in 1881, resulted in the town being incorporated in May 1885. City officials selected at that first election were: mayor - J.M. Phillips; recorder-clerk - J.A. Smith; marshal - Joshua Carmen; aldermen - H.H. Davis, H.H York, S.P. Sample, W.E. Shanks, and N. Northern. By Nov. 19,1885, H.H. York had replaced Mr. Carmen as marshal. (*West Fork Republic*, Nov. 19, 1885)



James Madison Phillips

The railroad provided an outlet for the area's fruits, produce and timber. At this time in West Fork, James was a contractor and builder. Legal business was handled by Thomas McKnight, J.P. and J.C. Oldham, and N.P. & G.S. White. Medical needs were met by Doctors J.J. Cannon, S.P. Sarople, and A.S. Fleming. Dr. Fleming also owned and operated the West Fork Hotel. F.J. Males owned a drugstore; J.P. Cox dealt in groceries; hardware and implements were handled by Jacob Yoes; a meat market was operated by Thomas Everett. C. Stapelton dealt in furniture; J.W. Bell and D.H. & D.K. Barron were blacksmiths. The West Fork Flouring Mills, West Fork Canning Company, and the

can factory were important businesses, run by Mr. Yoes, Mr. Crider, S.P. Sample, G.S. White, C.K. Winslow, Thomas Walker, J.F. Collyer, and J.C. Oldham. Fred Lozier owned a nursery. Gilstraps Mill was the first business in the area. (From *We Call It Home.*)

James M. Phillips and Eliza Helms were married Oct. 14, 1868 in Franklin County, Mo. In 1882 they and their children moved to Arkansas with the Jacob Wallace family, James' brother-in-law. Others who lived in the area and signed affidavits regarding James' Civil War pension request in 1896 were: Augusta Collins, Eliza's younger sister, of Raum, Carrol County; G.L. Helms of Eureka Springs; Charles Helms, Eliza's brother; and Deborah York of Knox County, Ky., who had been present at the birth of Jesse, James and Eliza's youngest child. Their other children were James, Annie R., Henry J., Lydia A., Marguerite E., Harriet A., and Jerome.

Born June 23, 1828 in Binghampton, N.Y., James served in the Union Army as a private in the 16th Wisconsin Regiment, Co. A. He was in the Battle of Atlanta, under General Sherman's command in 1864, and was honorably discharged on July 12, 1865, in Louisville, Ky., at the end of the War. He died 16 November 1897 and is buried in the National Cemetery at Springfield, Missouri.

[Regarding the Phillips move to West Fork, and then later to Springfield, Mo., Paula Vierra said that the Phillips family moved to West Fork because of Eliza's relatives—the Helms and Collins—living there and in Eureka Springs. She said her mother told her once that they moved back to Springfield because they were all getting malaria in West Fork. She (Paula Vierra, 1474 Kings Crest, Eagan, MN 55122-3815, e-mail <seyta@juno.com>) is not sure of relatives now in the West Fork area, but would like to hear from someone with additional information.] ❖

HENRY HAROLD SUTTON

Northwest Arkansas' First Black Educator

October 26, 1869? - July 19, 1945

by Izola Preston Morgan and Gordon D. Morgan

Henry Harold Sutton, born in the small town of Fayetteville, Arkansas, was to become an important educator. Although his birth year has often been given as 1878, it now seems indubitable that the correct date was October 26, 1869.[1]

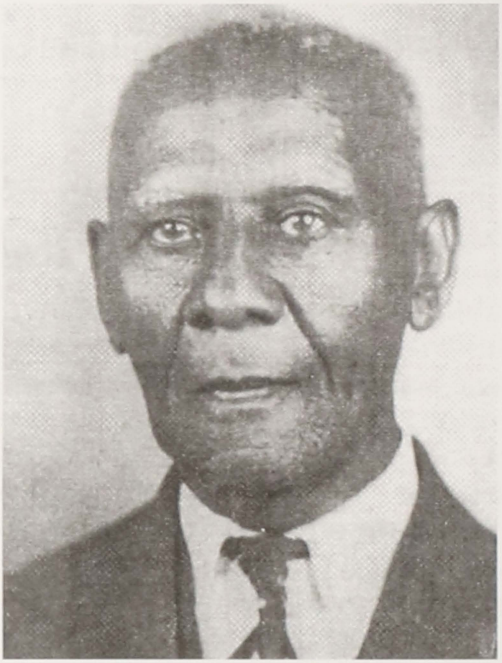
Sutton was the youngest child of Mailtia Sutton.[2] Other children were Kate, Frank, Charles, and George. Mailtia was a kitchen worker in the home of James T. and Francena Sutton, a merchant family in Fayetteville. In the 1870s Fayetteville was a most unusual town: an idyllically sheltered place where Sutton was nourished in sources for African American cultural traditions. The University of Arkansas was signed into being as a school with the signature of Joseph C. Corbin, a black man, who was superintendent of instruction for Arkansas. The first free public school in Fayetteville was started there in 1866. Sutton's mother encouraged him to attend. Sutton had a thirst for learning, which made him apply himself very diligently, although the school term rarely lasted more than three months after the crops had been harvested.

He was the first student to complete the Mission School for "Negro Only," later called the Henderson School. This school had room for 80 to 100 students.

Sutton's early teachers (1866-1895) at the Mission School for "Negroes Only" were educated in the eastern colleges with certificates to teach in Arkansas and other states. Some of the teachers were Dora Ford, Bell Manuel, Clara Henderson, A. L. Richardson, W. J. Kidd, Washington Pendar, S. H. Hill, and Beulah Chappelle. These were white missionary teachers who taught the

black students. They were not well received by the general public. This problem was intensified by the fact that their salaries were paid in greenbacks while the other teachers sometimes received their salaries in county script worth from forty to seventy cents on a dollar of face value.

The Mission School was purchased by a private citizen and transformed into a part of Fayetteville's Historic District.



Henry Harold Sutton

Sutton completed this school and entered Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkan-sas, earning a degree there in 1897.[3] He is believ-ed to have worked at the college for over 50 years. How-ever, in W. S. Campbell's *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville*, it was reported that Sutton taught at a college in Birmingham, Alabama, and at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.[4]

In the early years of Arkansas' educational system, normal schools were held to train the teachers in the best methods to give instruction to the students. In 1898 Sutton held a normal school in Searcy (White County) from May 30 to June 22. White County had 588 students enrolled in school in 1897 and 642 in 1898.[5] There were

27 teachers enrolled and 18 attended. Only one was a college graduate and four with first-year certificates, four with second-year certificates and eleven with third-year certificates.[6] Sutton's report from the Normal School was as follows:

Searcy Colored Normal

"I have the honor herewith to present my report of the White County Colored Normal which opened May 30 and closed June 22. The first week was devoted to primary work. A class of small boys and girls was organized in order to fully demonstrate the latest and most improved methods in this work of pupil development. Special attention to blackboard and chart exercises; and it was gratifying to note the manifest interest on the part of the teachers in the character of this work.

"The other work of the normal, being so judiciously arranged, we were able to pursue it with a decided advantage and profit. Prof. Baker, county examiner, gave the teachers some very valuable work; and Prof. Gibson, of the white normal, gave a very interesting lecture on the work of the normals. Pursuant to request a county teachers' association was organized. The teachers of the county are making strenuous efforts for higher attainments in the work of their profession, and they have realized that the normal is the prime factor in teacher development, and they desire to express to you their many thanks and high appreciation of your kindness in giving them the benefit of normal training." H. H. Sutton, conductor[7]

The Arkansas Teacher Association was started in 1898 by Joseph C. Corbin and R. C. Childress to improve deplorable conditions of black schools. Dr. Corbin was the first president of the association. The membership was one dollar. The association was concerned also with the school building, equipment, more adequately pre-

pared teachers, and better health conditions. This educational association was formed since the Arkansas Education Association was closed to African American teachers.[8]

During his years at Philander Smith College, Sutton held the position of professor of education, director of teacher training and certification, registrar, and superintendent of buildings and grounds. The Philander Smith College faculty was organized into a club which met once each month for fun or a serious program. Sutton also entertained the students and chaperoned their activities. He traveled during the years and made his influence felt in other places, helping to set up a New Alumni Association.[9] In 1910-1912 he was president of the Arkansas Teachers Association. On July 1, 1969, the organization merged with the Arkansas Education Association.

Henry Harold Sutton lived for 35 years at 1114 Izard Street with his wife Virgenis and two children.[10] In the 1940s he took in a student from Fayetteville by the name of Francis Corinne Hoover.[11] She took meals with the Sutton family and helped out with their children. Hoover was interested in nursing but Philander Smith College did not offer this program.

During his long teaching career, Sutton exhibited his philosophy of education which was similar to that of Booker T. Washington, the organizer and principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, from 1881 to 1915. Washington was noted for his emphasis on practical education.[12] He thought education should be practical. He tried to help develop the abilities and potentialities of students. His philosophy was conditioned by his understanding of the background of the students he taught. Along with education he stressed personality development, self control, and exhibition of good manners and taste. The mark of an educated person was

knowledge and refinement, both of which had to be developed in students who attended his classes. Rev. C. Gray reported that Sutton said, "I will tell you everything you need to know about education."[13] Sutton knew his students would eventually enter into positions of leadership within society and that they should be prepared.

On October 12, 1945, the senior class at Philander Smith College sponsored a memorial service for Sutton calling him the "Great Humanitarian."[14] The paper noted that "No choice of words could completely describe his greatness or adequately measure the service he rendered to his alma mater and to the community. Only the Supreme Artist could paint the true picture; only He could create such a character as Henry Harold Sutton."

Henry Harold Sutton was buried in Haven of Rest Cemetery, Little Rock, Arkansas, on July 23, 1945.

History as Issues

Only a few of the facts of the case of Henry Harold Sutton are in dispute. One of those facts is the date of Sutton's birth. One source places it in 1869 and another in 1878. These date discrepancies create an issue in relation to the admission of African Americans to the University of Arkansas, begun in 1871. Sutton is known to have completed Mission School in Fayetteville. He would have been around age 12 when he completed the first few grades of the school. Using the 1878 date would have placed him at about 1891 when he completed the school. Even then he might have been a good candidate to enter the University of Arkansas, which was then a preparatory school.

The University of Arkansas began as a preparatory school, but was in reality a crudely graded school. Since there were no facilities in Arkansas (or nearby for that matter) for preparing students for college entrance, it

was necessary to provide a preparatory part, making it auxiliary to the higher departments. It was imperative to design it to prepare students who might desire to enter the University or normal departments.[15]

Since Sutton's mother worked for prominent and educated members in the town of Fayetteville, and emphasized schooling in her son, the issue must have been raised of where he would further his schooling. The rules of the University of Arkansas never contained language limiting the enrollment of students by race, nor did those of Branch Normal at Pine Bluff.[16] How did the regulation become so well known that a family would automatically understand it was not to attempt enrollment of a child otherwise qualified? A hardship would be worked upon the Sutton family to send the child afar, given the poor means of travel and communication.

The case is particularly interesting because black students were known to have attended the University from its very beginning.[17] By the time that Sutton would have wanted to attend the preparatory department of the University of Arkansas, the Plessy decision of 1896 was several years away. It is entirely possible that Henry Harold Sutton was one of the early black students at the University of Arkansas even if his attendance dated from the time of the opening of Branch Normal at Pine Bluff.

Sutton graduated from Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1897. His name does not appear on the work roster of the college until 1900. How he survived for three years is unknown. Philander Smith College was a project of white missionaries. For the first twenty or thirty years its presidents and teachers were white. The first black president was hard pressed to find enough black teachers to staff the school after the effects of the Plessy decision.

However, the Suttons were interested in education. Seneca Sutton, father of James T. Sutton, was one of the

chartered members of Arkansas College (Fayetteville) in 1852.[18] James and Francena Sutton had several children who attended college. Mary Bell Sutton finished from Peabody Institute of Nashville, Tennessee, and taught school in Morrilton, Arkansas. William Seneca Sutton completed the Arkansas Industrial University at Fayetteville, with a B.A. degree at 18 years of age. He taught in Arkansas for a few years then moved to Texas. He became superintendent of schools in Houston, Texas, and later served as professor of pedagogy, dean of the school of education and as president of the University of Texas.[19]

The story of Henry Harold Sutton is not only the story of a single individual, born close to the end of slavery. Telling his story provides an opportunity to understand the extent to which the lives of individuals are integrated into much wider social networks, some of which would not be anticipated. For example, there is no record of the paternity of the several children of Mailtia Sutton, the mother of Henry Harold. The best evidence is that she was brought into Arkansas Territory, from Illinois or Missouri, in the 1830s, possibly before Arkansas became a state in 1836. The Seneca Sutton family settled in the area of Fayetteville and obtained the services of Mailtia. They may have brought her with them. In 1840 there were three free blacks and 120 slaves in the area. Mailtia is not listed as a free person in the 1840 census.

The records are inconclusive on the maternity and paternity of Mailtia Sutton. Nor is it known how the Suttons came to employ Mailtia. There were several common practices in the states at that time. In slave states some owners took in slaves because they did not have extensive holdings of land and other resources by which to maintain completely separate quarters for their slaves.[20] In the free states, the attitudes may have been more lenient. In Missouri, for example, near the Arkan-

sas border, the young slave George Washington Carver was raised by a German family who treated him fairly. There is little evidence that Carver felt much like a slave child, though there were circumstances such as Carver's health, that prevented him from undertaking very strenuous work farm work. As important could have been the attitude of the owners of the Carver child.[21]

The former and late president of the University of Arkansas, David Wiley Mullins, writing about his home area of Evening Shade, in Sharp County, notes that a tent store owner, before the end of slavery, kept a slave woman as part of his household. He, the woman, and a dog were the only guards of the wares for sale.[22]

Because northern Arkansas was closer to the Midwest, sentimentally and physically, it would not be unexpected that the Suttons, while not perhaps as activist as the abolitionist John Brown of Ossawatomie, Kansas, may have exhibited their antislavery sentiments in other ways. Seneca and Isabella Sutton, were married in 1834 and came to Fayetteville about 1839. They were respectively citizens of Kentucky and Missouri. Seneca had been a merchant in Missouri. In Arkansas Seneca became involved in business and education and was an incorporator of Arkansas College, begun formally on December 14, 1852.

James T. Sutton, the older son, served in the Confederate Army, 1862-1863. He married Francena L. Martin, a native of Arkansas. The James T. Suttons were parents of two sons, William Seneca Sutton and Henry Stevinson Sutton and one daughter Mary Bell Sutton. William Seneca Sutton was born in Fayetteville in 1860. William Seneca Sutton founded the summer school or normal school in Texas in 1897. (Henry Harold Sutton also taught in the normal school in Arkansas.) He was a member of the Commission on Race Questions of the South.[23]

No additional information has been found about

Henry Stevinson Sutton. It is more than coincidental that Mailtia Sutton, who worked for Seneca and Isabella Sutton, gave birth to Henry Harold Sutton about 1869, though some say he was born in 1878. Two Henry Suttons having the same surnames, when they would be contemporaries of each other, is perhaps unusual. It was not all that unusual, though for servants to name their children after the persons for whom they worked.

William Seneca Sutton (white) and Henry Harold Sutton (colored), were contemporaries, in an educational sense, and that is interesting. The tradition of education that had been established through Seneca Sutton's family, through their children, but James T. Sutton especially, and then through William Seneca Sutton, had a good chance of being continued on the black Sutton side. If the earliest date of Henry Harold Sutton's birth is accepted (1869), he is only nine years younger than William Seneca Sutton, the educator. It was not uncommon for white and colored children to play together at young ages with lines being drawn after they reached puberty. William S. Sutton could have influenced Henry Harold Sutton, the little colored boy, teaching him to read and to do other academic work, providing Henry Harold something of a different view of education when he was old enough to attend Mission School in Fayetteville.

This may not have been so unusual because the enrollment at Mission School was substantial. The earliest school census for the State of Arkansas was in 1869. That census did not stress race. The available Washington County colored school census was in 1881. There were several schools in the county but the majority were in Fayetteville. The colored students enumerated in 1881 were 342. Interpolations are necessary to estimate the number of students actually attending school of the number enumerated. Because of a variety of fac-

tors, such as distance, fees, book costs, need of children to work around the places, availability of teachers, etc., not all children enumerated attended school. Henry Harold Sutton of Fayetteville, was one of those children privileged to attend school. The extent of his distinction at Mission School is unknown because such records no longer exist, or if they do, they cannot be found.

Once Sutton completed Mission School he faced the same problems and options that other young people faced. Then, it was not uncommon for parents to hold their children out of elementary school until they were older. In former slave families there was not much of a tradition of literacy. If a child could work, that was preferable for most families, to attending school. Moreover, family need may have forced the early employment of young children. Additionally, an educated black child could be a problem for there was nowhere to use that schooling unless in the training of other children. Teaching thus became identified as black literary work.

These facts are established to draw the connection between the white Suttons and the colored Suttons, and especially the educational connections.

The academic life of Henry Harold Sutton, by the absence of many details, illustrates the kinds of problems and emphases of black education for the time. Higher education for black Americans, particularly in Arkansas, and no doubt in the rest of the South, was in an ambiguous position, as was majority education itself. The growing strength of Jim Crow, the increasing need for labor in the cotton farms, and the uncertainty that was present about how black education would be financed affected the drift. The atmosphere had not been created for scholarship in the South to be other than apologist, and never critical of the social system in which the people found themselves. Education was to remain preparation for fitting into the social structure as it was then operat-

ing. This fit did not require analysis or understanding, and so there was little of which to research or to write.

Even majority schools of high prestige, such as Vanderbilt University and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, couched their social science scholarship in total or almost total apologism until well after World War II.[24] There was uncertainty as to whether white teachers would continue to work with black youth at a time when there was not a trained cadre of black teachers. Some 68 black colleges were begun between 1837 and 1899. Cheney State College of Pennsylvania, begun in 1837 is the oldest.[25] The contests over the direction of black education as framed by DuBois and Booker T. Washington did not resolve the issue.

The opening of black land-grant colleges in 1890 served to further segregate black education while holding out hope that these colleges could produce graduates who could work successfully in the black community. Although their scholars were trained in the schools of the East, seldom did they carry their agriculture, research, and service knowledge beyond the boundaries of their campuses. Their research was duplicated, or they duplicated the research of the majority scholars in the colleges of agriculture in the schools of the South. Black problems were not perceived as different from majority problems and there was little demand for research or writings from the black colleges.

It was only in the 1940s that cooperative studies were undertaken in which black and majority scholars were involved and this was in the more daring schools such as the University of Chicago and later the University of North Carolina. Most often the majority scholars provided the theoretical framework around which these studies were organized.[26] While higher education was largely private and in the hands of old foundation schools, such as Harvard, Yale, and Brown, religious

groups financed some black colleges. The mission of these schools was to provide black teachers for the many communities whose children sought bare literacy and ciphering ability. Teachers were expected to spend most of their time and energy working with those trainees who would go on the front lines as educators into those communities which had none. Advancement of knowledge was not much emphasized by the administrators of those schools. When black teachers began to supplant the majority ones, mainly following the Plessy decision of 1896, many held marginal qualifications, although some such as W.E.B. DuBois and a few teachers at Fisk and Howard Universities were well qualified. Not even George Washington Carver published much while he was at Iowa State College and did not feel that he should write much from his groundbreaking research at Tuskegee.[27]

Church related schools such as Tugaloo College in Mississippi continued to have majority teachers until well into the 1940s and many afterward. They had more freedom to write and research but were strapped by the poles of apologism or criticism and found the dilemma too hard to resolve. Many carried out their work in virtual obscurity while on the black campuses.

Henry Harold Sutton did not become well known for his educational philosophy, or for his writings or research. Again, those were not the emphases of the schools serving the freedmen. As important, though, was the fact that when Sutton completed his training and began to work at Philander Smith College, there were few organs in which black scholars could publish. The state teacher associations did not publish journals until well into the 1930s. A few journals such as the NAACP *Crisis*, begun soon after the founding of the NAACP in 1910, was more oriented toward protest than toward the sharing of academic research. It was in 1916 that Carter

G. Woodson began the *Journal of Negro History.* Atlanta University, under the leadership of W.E.B. DuBois, opened *Phylon: The Journal of Race and Culture* around 1940. Howard University, Washington, D.C., began publishing the *Journal of Negro Education* around 1932. These organs struggled against strong opposition. They had small budgets and could issue only a few pages of research and commentary per issue. By that time the black schools had become ranked, scholars from hinterland schools had little chance of publishing even in those organs. D. B. Gaines, M.D., and pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Little Rock, published *Racial Possibilities as Indicated by the Negroes of Arkansas.* Gaines was president of the Philander Smith College Alumni Association at the time Henry Harold Sutton became a faculty member but he does not mention Sutton. Gaines admitted he could not mention all those who were outstanding and deserving, no doubt because of budget stringencies Gaines had to shorten his book.[28] E.M. Woods does not mention Sutton although arguably Sutton would have been one of the prominent educators at the college at that time.[29]

The Sutton name was a very important one in Fayetteville during its early days. When more streets were added to the city, Sutton Street was named for William Seneca Sutton.[30]

NOTES

1. Census of Arkansas, 1870.

2. Ibid.

3. Thomas E. Patterson. *History of the Arkansas Teachers Association* (Washington, D.C.: National Education Association, 1981), p. 25.

4. William S. Campbell. *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928, The Journal of Marian Tebbetts Barnes*, 1977, Washington County Historical Society, Fayetteville, Arkansas, p. 10.

5. *Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Arkansas, 1897-1898*, pp. 226-229.

6. Ibid., p. 298.

7. Ibid., p. 153.

8. *The Philanderian.* Yearbook of Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1944.

9. Patterson. op. cit.

10. Death Certificate, Harold Sutton. Little Rock, Ark.: State of Arkansas Bureau of Vital Statistics.

11. Francis C. Hoover, born 1923; interviewed Feb. 11, 1998).

12. Norman Hodges. *Black History* (New York: Monarch Press, a division of Simon and Schuster, 1971), pp. 151-154.

13. Conversation with Rev. C. Gray, Pastor, Asbury-Mt. Olive United Methodist Church, Topeka, Kansas, circa April 1, 1998. Rev. Gray attended Philander Smith College when Sutton was a teacher there.

14. *The Arkansas State Press,* Little Rock, Arkansas, October 26, 1945.

15. *School Days, School Days: The History of Education in Washington County, 1830-1950,* compiled by Members of the Washington County Retired Teachers Association (Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1986).

16. Lawrence A. Davis, "A Comparison of the Philosophies, Purposes and Functions of the Negro Land-grant Colleges and Universities with Emphasis upon the Program of the Agricultural, Mechanical, and Normal College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas." Ed.D. Thesis. Fayetteville, Arkansas: University of Arkansas, 1960.

17. See Lurline Mahan Lee, "The Origin, Development, and Present Status of Arkansas Program of Higher Education for Negroes." Ann Arbor: University of Michigan. Dissertation. Lee cites one A.B. Crumpt, later principal of the Camden, Arkansas, black high school, as an early student at the University of Arkansas, p. 232.

18. Campbell, op. cit., p. 10. Campbell states that several families in Fayetteville owned slaves and they were quartered in cabins in the backyards.

19. *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas.* (Chicago: Goodspeed Publications, Co., 1889, p. 1024.

20. Orville Taylor. *Negro Slavery in Arkansas* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1958), p. 147.

21. Of several important works on Carver, see Ethel Edwards. *Carver of Tuskegæ* (Cincinnati: Psyche Press, 1971), Rackham Holt. *George Washington Carver: An American Biography* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran and Co., Inc., 1943, and Linda O. McMurry. *George Washington Carver: Scientist and Symbol* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1981).

22. See in David Wiley Mullins, M.A. Thesis, "History of Sharp County, Arkansas. Boulder: University of Colorado, 1934.

23. Campbell, op. cit., p. 100.

24. See Joseph J. Persky. *The Burden of Dependency: Colonial Themes in Southern Economic Thought* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992), where this idea is reiterated at many places).

25. See *A Report, Directory of Historically Black Colleges in the United States*, 1977 edition, published by the National Alliance of Businessmen, 1730 K Street Northwest, Washington, D.C., 2000; also Bridges Alfred Turner, Ed.D., Coordinator of Minority Manpower Resources Project, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, 77004, 1979, p. 4, and Komanduri S. Murty and Julian B. Roebuck, "The Case for Historically Black Colleges and Universities," Vol. 36, No. 4, *Journal of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Fall, 1990/1991, pp. 171-192, notes the dates of the founding of black colleges and other information regarding them).

26. See especially, Gordon D. Morgan, "First Generation Sociologists and Theories of Social Change," *Journal of the Association of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 1975.

27. See Richard Pilant. *George Washington Carver: The Poor Peoples Scientist* (Point Lookout, Missouri: The School of the Ozarks, 1971), for brief review of Carver's life and work, and Rackham Holt. *George Washington Carver: an American Biography* (Garden City, New York: Double, Doran and Company, Inc., 1943) and Gene Adair. *George Washington Carver* (New York: Chelsea House, 1989).

28. See D. B. Gaines. *Racial Possibilities as Indicated by the Negroes of Arkansas* (Little Rock, Arkansas: Philander Smith College Press, 1898), p. 62.

29. E. M. Woods. *Blue Book of Little Rock and Argenta, Arkansas* (Little Rock: Central Printing Company, 1907).

30. Stephen L. Davis, "The Naming of Fayetteville Streets," *Arkansas Folklore*, Fall, 1971, p. 30.

Other Sources

Dr. Willie B. Shockley, Director of Alumni Affairs (Emeritus), Philander Smith College.

Theresa Hoover, Director, Womens Divison of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church (1968-1995), a grassroots mission organization of approximately 1.2 million members in some 28,000 local units, with administratives offices in New York City. ❖

University Sunday School Under President Hill

From page 117 of the *History of the University of Arkansas* by Reynolds and Thomas, 1910, we learn this about Sunday School classes at the UofA 115 years ago:

"The early official acts of General Hill were characteristic. The first was a motion in the executive committee of the board to purchase song books for the use of students at chapel. Another was to open faculty meetings with prayer. He was a devout Christian, and his administration was characterized with the Christian spirit. Two chapel exercises were conducted daily, one in the morning and one at the close of the last recitation period. General Hill conducted a Sunday school at the chapel each Sunday afternoon for several years. Attendance was made obligatory by action of the board upon all students not having conscientious scruples, The whole school was taught by the president. It was kept up until 1883, when at his suggestion it was discontinued and a roll call substituted, though the latter was not a success. . ." ❖

QUERY— *Nora Laikam, 609 West Sierra #108, Fresno, CA 93704, e-mail <LNL02@csufresno.edu>* is seeking information about THOMAS SHELLEY (SHELLY) and his children, who moved from McDonald Co., Mo. to Washington Co., Ark., after 1881. Thomas died in 1902 and is buried in the Evergreen Cemetery. Two sons who definitely relocated with Thomas were JOHN WALTER SHELLEY and CURTIS SHELLEY. Other SHELLEY children: MARY A., JAMES CALVIN, HENRY D., WILLIAM F., ULYSESS G., MATTIE, ISAAC, NANCY A., GEORGE, ALBERT L., and ELIZABETH. ❖

Trying to Establish the Oldest Grave in Washington County

by Bob Keen

In 1828 the Arkansas territorial legislature created Washington County out of Lovely County, which then ceased to exist. In 1824 when the treaty was made with the Cherokee Indians, this was known as Lovely's Purchase. The first families of Washington County came to the county in 1826 and settled near Vinyard; there were six families. They were John Alexander's family, two McGarrah families, two Simpson families, and a Shannon family. However, their settlement was a trespass, and a command of U.S. soldiers was sent from Fort Gibson to remove them in August of 1826. The settlers each had small fields of corn, which the soldiers cut down. After the soldiers had left to return to the fort, the families returned to their houses and remained there.

In 1828 when the treaty with the Cherokees had been signed, a great number of people started arriving in Washington County. The first post offices were established in Evansville, Canehill, and Washington Court House—soon renamed Fayetteville. The county had started settling up fast, and one of the first families moved to Fayetteville and built his cabin where the Hilton Hotel now stands.

This brings us to just where the settlements and first cemeteries were. Evansville was called Vinyard, but was changed to Evansville in 1837, in honor of Captain Louis Evans the first sheriff of Washington County who also ran a Indian trading post. A numerous group of settlers had came to Arkansas and settled at Crystal Hill [close to North Little Rock], Because of disease along the river they moved up river to Phillips Landing, which is now Van Buren, and then they came overland to Evansville,

on their way to Canehill. Near where the town of Morrow is now, they stayed overnight and it was near there John Billingsley died, on November 14, 1827. He was carried on to Canehill and buried on the top of a knoll one-half mile northwest of Canehill. This became know as the Carnahan or Bean Cemetery. Some other notable people buried in this cemetery are Reverand John Carnahan, a Revolutionary soldier, born in 1756, died 1840; Aunt Lame Polly (Mary Pyeatt), second wife of Rev. John Carnahan; Jacob Pyeatt, a Revolutionary soldier who served with Clark's Regiment, Virginia State Troops, born 1760, died 1844; and Jane Carnahan. There are many graves outside the rock inclosure, two of which are William Maxwell and Annie Billingsley, his wife.

John Billingsley, born 1772 in Guilford County, North Carolina, and who died Nov. 14, 1827, was the first one buried at this cemetery, and it is also my belief that he is the first person buried in Washington County.

Another old cemetery is Bethlehem Cemetery, and the first burial there was Jane Carnahan, first wife of Rev. John Carnahan. She was born in 1770, died January 1, 1832. There are also some Pyeatt children who died in 1833 and 1834. Another notable person buried in this cemetery is Benjamin Hayles who was born on the Isle of Wight, England, 1799, killed by Pin Indians, August 26, 1835. His wife Leah hid in the well, and after the Indians were gone she walked through the woods to John Latta's house in Vinyard, and worked as a housekeeper for Mr. Latta for many years. The place where Benjamin was killed is modern day Hale Mountain. Another notable person in this cemetery is Rev. T. H. Tennant, born in 1772 and died 1886. This indicates Rev. Tennant lived 114 years. To my knowledge this is the oldest person to have ever lived in Washington County. Anyone who has any comments on this please write to me (13643 Lincoln-Cane Hill Road, Lincoln, AR 72744). ❖

1866 Letter Reveals Many Pains and Sorrows of Civil War

The following letter was submitted by Carl Fallen, 6120 East 76th Street, Tulsa, OK 74136, e-mail <acfallen@aol.com>. He found it on page 40 of *Kentucky Explorer,* Vol. 12, No. 7, Jan., 1998. He had these comments:

"I grew up at Sulphur City (near Elkins) and roamed the Pea Ridge Battlefield examining the overgrown battlefield grave markers and trying to comprehend what happened there long before there was any consideration for making it a National Battlefield Park. It saddens me to see today's children have so little knowledge and appreciation for the events in their countryside during our country's greatest war. It's letters like these that make it seem like last year. I believe 'Foggy Depot in the Nation' mentioned in the 3rd paragraph, refers to Boggy Depot in Indian Territory (near Atoka, Okla.)."

Kingston, Kings River
Madison County, Arkansas
November 14, 1866

To John Page and Family
Dear son and Daughter,

I embrace the present opportunity of writing you a letter to let you know that I am still in the land of the living and enjoying very good health, and I do hope these few lines may reach you and find you all enjoying the same great blessing.

I have a heap to write to you, more I fear than I shall think of. I have sorrowful news to communicate. Your father fell a victim in time of the great war. He was killed by the Federal Forces on the 4th day of March, 1865. He was at Sam's house on the mountain where he lived when you left. When the Federals charged up, it fightened the old man, and he tried to made his escape by running. They charged after him and shot him from the back of the neck down to the waist. He had nine

or ten balls pass through his body. So scared and disturbed was everybody that I had to stay with him in the woods all day by myself, with my apron spread over his face. We got a little help to bury him without any coffin, but that is not all. Posey is gone, he died a natural death. He died in Federal Forces at Little Rock. He lay sick for a long time, but at last God released him from his pain and then he went away, gone to try the realities of an unknown world to us.

I will now tell you all I can about the children that is living. I will begin with Sam. He is living near Fayetteville, Arkansas. He moved south during the war, or rather at the close of it. He lost two of his children while he was south. Dave is near Kingston, Arkansas. He has had a good deal of sickness in the family this fall and lost one of his children. Hosea is living near where you lived when you lived on Dry Creek. He is married and has a family. Cook Cobb is living here in the settlement. He and family is all well. Frank is married and is living where your father used to live, and I am living with him. John Daily is living still higher up the creek than where we live. Milt is in Texas. I got a letter from him a few days since. He is doing very well. James is living near Foggy Depot in the Nation. He is also doing very well. I believe I have told you all about your brothers and sisters that will interest you.

I now attempt to tell you something about the war in our country as follows: In the year of 1861 they began calling for volunteers here. They made up a company of Confederate soldiers here in this settlement. They went out and served a while in the war and then returned home. They were engaged in the Oak Hill Battle where they proved victorious, drove the Yankees off the field. The Southern soldiers then moved out of Missouri and left it to the Yankess. Shortly after, they came down in large numbers again. Generals McCollough and Price met and encountered them at Elkhorn [Battle of Pea Ridge - L.B.] in Benton County, Arkansas, a dreadful conflict. The Federals proved victorious and General McCullough was killed. Price went to the East with Old Ben, and our forces encountered

General Hindman and his army of conscripts at Prairie Grove, near Fayetteville and whipped him, drove him across the Arkansas River. Shortly after this battle the Yankees came to Kings River and commenced their dreadful slaughter of men and horse stealing.

Then there was raised in our settlement, independent companies of lawless bands who went about over the country, stealing and robbing every lady without distinction; and then aftler they got everything in our country, they turned in and burned our houses, turned out widows and orphans in the winter's snow. They entirely robbed me out, never left me narry a single horse nor nothing that was worth anything. They never left narry a house in the beautiful little town of Kingston. They nearly burned up Huntsville too, it would have been destroyed if it had not have been headquarters for the thieves that Madison County turned out. They never left but three or four houses from John Combs down to Walls, a distance of eight or nine miles. This is a faint description of the Great War in our country to restore the Constitution and put down the rebellion. They have put down the rebellion but have they restored the Constitution? You may say, I will not.

I will now try to tell you of all the deaths in our acquaintance. I will begin with Buffalo. They killed Granton Edgmon and three of his sons, Samuel, Squire, and Abner. They killed John Grimes and old Mr. McRunnels that lived near Huntsville. They killed Tony Logan, one of the old man Logan's sons. They killed John A. Hawkins and a great many others that you do not know. Allen Cusham, he was killed at home by the Yankees. Oh, I cannot think of them all, to save my life. The war has entirely ruined our country, but I think it will build up again in the course of time. The people seem to be in good spirits and are trying to rebuild. If you want to come back to this country to live you can buy land very cheap here now. It is very low in consequence of the scarcity of money. Everything is very scarce here and times is hard, hard, very hard. For the want of room I must quit. You must write me as soon as you get

this letter. Write without fail.

Give me all the news of every kind in your country. So no more at this time, but I remain your affectionate Mother until death.

Jane Page ❖

QUERY— *Modena Caskey, 231 NE 4th Street, Lexington, OK 73051,* who is 86 years old, has written WCHS a letter sending a photocopy of another she had written to other people. She is seeking genealogical information about her mother's family, the BREWERS and McCLENDONS. We have excerpted the following:

Her mother MARY ELIZABETH BREWER married JOHN ROYAL MCQUILLIAMS (Note spelling with a "Q"), and was the daughter of JOSIAH BREWER and SARAH EMALINE MCCLENDON. JOSIAH BREWER, who died in Van Buren was the son of ZEBEDEE BREWER. Mary Elizabeth was born near Winslow in 1873, and noted she would "walk through a railroad tunnel through a mountain to go to school."

Mrs. Caskey has a newspaper article about P. E. McCLENDON, a relative of her grandmother SARAH EMALINE McCLENDON. P. E. McCLENDON married MARY ANN LEE January 28, 1875, and were celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary, and it was also the 89th birthday of Mrs. McClendon. Their seven children and families and over a hundred people were in attendance. GLORIA BROWN, a 3-year-old great granddaughter, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. HOWARD BROWN of Fayetteville, sang Happy Birthday.

P. E. McCLENDON was born at Grassy Cove, Bledsoe County, Tenn. 31 Jul 1853. He settled near Winslow in 1873 when the town was only a stage coach stop known as Summit House. His father, JOSEPH B. McCLENDON,

was born in 1792, and his wife's given name was Elizabeth. Mrs. McClendon was the daughter of EDWARD LEE and SALVA RANKIN LEE of Virginia, Tennessee, and Alabama, and was a distant relative of the family of General Robert E. Lee. She was a native of Jackson County, Ala., and lived in Ft. Smith during the latter days of the Civil War. At the time of the anniversary, three daughters were living at the home, ALICE and JEWEL, both teachers who never married, and ROSE-BELL. They lived near Dodds Point (elevation 2,300 feet) about half a mile south of Winslow.

It was noted that WALTER GILSTRAP of Springdale, and MARGUERITE GILSTRAP of the of the University General Extension office were gr. nephew and neice of the McClendons. ❖

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You All Come To The Ice Cream Social August 21

The 29th Annual Washington County Historical Society Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Saturday, August 21, 1999 on the lawn of Headquarters House, 118 East Dickson in Fayetteville. It will once again be three hours full of family fun, entertainment and, of course, ice cream and cake!

Come rain or shine! Our rain location is the covered parking lot at the Court House.

This year's Social will take place from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and will feature musical performances, antique autos on display, a live auction, and special historical items for sale.

The special entertainment this year will be by the well-known musician, Marshall Mitchell.

Items for sale at the Ice Cream Social include WCHS books, one-of-a-kind used books, unique miniature plaques featuring replicas of historic buildings, and many great "buys" from the live auction. The live auction, a new addition this year, will be conducted from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. by auctioneer Don Guthery.

The price of admission to the Annual Ice Cream Social is only $5 for adults and $2 for children under 12. Included in these modest prices are all the ice cream and homemade cake you can eat, great fellowship, and some very special entertainment. Again this year the ice cream will be furnished by Hiland Dairy and drinks by Pepsi Cola.

Proceeds from the event will help maintain Headquarters House and keep it available as a historic museum as a link to the past in Washington County and as a tool to assist in teaching hundreds of school children who tour the house each year.

If you have them, come dressed in your finest 19th Century fashions. The Ice Cream Social is a family event you don't want to miss!

ISSN 0428-5573

Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson
Fayetteville, AR 72701

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Mullins Library #2
Serials Department
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Come on in to the Ice Cream Social
at Headquarters House
August 21 at 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.